



# Eiruv Tavshilin (ET)

for Erev Rosh HaShana, WED, Oct. 2nd, '24

When Yom Tov is Friday or Thursday-Friday, we make an Eiruv Tavshilin (ET) on Erev Yom Tov, which begins the preparations for Shabbat, so that we will be able to continue cooking for Shabbat on Friday. Without the ET, cooking (and other things) is allowed on Yom Tov, only for the day itself.

Rosh HaShana 5785 is on Thursday and Friday. Making an ET on Wednesday, Erev RH, permits cooking, baking, and lighting candles on Friday (Yom Tov) for Shabbat.

Sometime before Yom Tov, one takes a Challah or Matza and a cooked food (hard boiled egg, piece of gefilte fish, piece of chicken, etc.) which will be eaten on Shabbat (many eat the ET at Seuda Shlishit, but it only must last until Shabbat arrives to be effective). With both items in hand, one recites the bracha...

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ עַל מִצְוֹת עֵרוּב.

and then makes the Eruv declaration, which is in Aramaic because it must be understood and Aramaic was the vernacular of the time. Therefore, one should make the declaration in whatever language he understands. It also follows that one should explain ET to his family - either at the time of making the Eruv, or some convenient time before or after. It is still traditional to say it in Aramaic, but you should feel free to follow the Aramaic with Hebrew and/or English...

בְּדִין עֵרוּבָא יְהֵא שְׂרָא לְנָא לְמִיפָא וּלְבִשְׂלָא וּלְאַטְמָנָא, וּלְאַדְלָקָא שְׂרָגָא,  
וּלְמַעְבַּד כָּל צְרָכָנָא, מִיּוֹמָא טָבָא לְשַׁבְּתָא, [לָנוּ וּלְכָל הַדְּרִים בְּעִיר הַזֹּאת].

בְּעֵרוּב הַזֶּה יְהִי מִתָּר לָנוּ לְאַפּוֹת וּלְבִשְׂל וּלְהַטְמִין וּלְהַדְלִיק נֵר וּלְעֲשׂוֹת כָּל  
צְרָכֵינוּ מִיּוֹם טוֹת לְשַׁבְּת [לָנוּ וּלְכָל הַדְּרִים בְּעִיר הַזֹּאת].

With this EIRUV it becomes permitted for us to bake, cook, to “hide” food (refers to packing food into an oven in such a way that not only will heat be maintained, but increased as well), to light candles, and do all other needs from Yom Tov to (for) Shabbat [for us and all Jews who live in this city].

After the bracha and declaration, one places the Eiruv items in a secure place so that they will not accidentally be eaten before cooking for Shabbat is done.

**REMINDER: Kindling fire is forbidden on Yom Tov. Extinguishing a fire is forbidden. Only lighting a fire from a preexisting flame is permitted. As is handling the candle, match, etc.**

## **NOTES ON EIRUV TAVSHILIN**

• There are two levels of ET. The first is personal. It is made by an individual for himself and his household. Period. And the correct text of the ET declaration is LANU, it shall be permitted for us. The advanced version is for G'DOLEI HA'IR, the rabbinic leaders of the community. They add, LANU ULCHOL YISRAEL HADARIM BA'IR HAZOT, for us and for all Jews who live in this city. A person who forgets to make an ET, or whose ET was eaten before he had a chance to cook on Friday for Shabbat, is covered by this "advanced" ET. One who purposely does not make an ET, intending to rely on the ET of others, is NOT covered by it. Although officially for the leaders of the community, anyone can make the "advanced version" of the ET. However... in order to make this kind of ET, one has to take the ET food, give it to someone else (one's child above the age of mitzvot, or, some say, only to someone not part of your household) to "acquire" it on behalf of (unknown) others. Then he takes it back, makes the bracha and declaration, including the extra phrase in brackets.

• One way of looking at ET is that cooking on Yom Tov for the following day is forbidden by the Torah only when the next day is CHOL. For Shabbat, it would be allowed. But the Sages said "no", lest one makes a mistake on a subsequent Yom Tov that is not followed by Shabbat. Then the Sages said, if you make a start of cooking for Shabbat before Yom Tov and you perform the ET on Erev Yom Tov, this will clearly consciously and subconsciously distinguish between Yom Tov followed by Shabbat and Yom Tov followed by a weekday and then there is no "danger of mistake" and cooking on Yom Tov Friday for Shabbat is permitted.

• Another school of thought holds that we cannot cook on Friday (Yom Tov) for Shabbat, but with an ET, one may cook on Friday so that in case unexpected guests should happen to come to our home, there will be food for them. If no guests show up, the food can be used for Shabbat. This opinion insists that one finish his cooking on Friday a reasonable amount of time before Shabbat, so that the food could really be served to unexpected guests on Yom Tov. The first opinion would allow cooking until close to candle lighting time.

Consult your rav on this issue, if necessary. (So too if you are away for Yom Tov.)

• ET is a rabbinic mitzva that was meant to solve the problem of providing fresh cooked food for Shabbat, and at the same time to preserve the proper observance and respect for Yom Tov. ET does not permit anything that is a Torah prohibition, but it does (properly) bypass what would otherwise be a rabbinic violation.

• Someone who does not plan to do any cooking on Yom Tov (invited out for meals or whatever) but does plan on lighting candles on Friday for Shabbat, should also make an ET. [Because circumstances differ, it is advisable to consult your Rav on this issue ET, yes or no; bracha yes or no.]